

**A** These days, it seems everything 1) *is changing*... (change). Cities 2) *becomes*... (become) bigger and busier every year, technology 3) *is developing*... (develop) faster than ever before, and scientists 4) *are learning*... (learn) more about the way things work.

**B** Water 1) *boils*... (boil) at 100°C and 2) *freezes*... (freeze) when the temperature 3) *drops*... (drop) below 0°C. Salt water 4) *is*... (be) different, however.

**C** This film 1) *is*... (be) great! It 2) *has*... (have) an all-star cast and the script 3) *is*... (be) very funny. The action 4) *is beginning*... (begin) when two young men 5) *is trying*... (try) to rob a bank.... Present simple

**D** ... Rogers 1) *is kicking*... (kick) the ball and 2) *is passing*... (pass) it to Jones. Jones 3) *is running*... (run) down the pitch. He 4) *is passing*... (pass) the ball to Smith who 5) *is shooting*... (shoot) and 6) *is scoring*... (score)!

Become adj 99,9

get adj

The prices are getting higher and higher

better and better

worse and worse

developing situation are

- 1 Elizabeth **usually goes / is usually going** to bed at around eleven o'clock.
- 2 Dan **talks / is talking** on the other phone right now.
- 3 We **don't eat / aren't eating** any meat at the moment as we're both on a diet.
- 4 **Does air travel get / Is air travel getting** increasingly safe?
- 5 My mum **calls / is calling** me every weekend without fail.
- 6 How much **do babysitters generally earn / are babysitters generally earning?**
- 7 **You always come / You're always coming** up with excuses for not having done your homework. It's so annoying!
- 8 **I don't go / I'm not going** out much during the week but **I always try / I'm always trying** to go out somewhere on Saturday night.
- 9 No, the train **does stop / is stopping** at Cirencester on Saturdays.
- 10 My mum **takes / is taking** part in ice-skating competitions almost every weekend.

- 1** When it started to snow heavily, Olivia and her family were
  - A** talking about what to do next.
  - B** driving along a main road.
  - C** having a snack in a café.
  
- 2** How did Olivia feel as heavy snow began to fall?
  - A** annoyed with her parents for getting lost.
  - B** sure that the snow would stop soon.
  - C** scared about what might happen.
  
- 3** Why did the car stop moving?
  - A** It had run out of petrol.
  - B** The snow was too deep.
  - C** They had hit another vehicle.
  
- 4** How did they try to keep warm in the car?
  - A** They put on lots of clothes.
  - B** They kept the heater on all night.
  - C** They drank some hot liquids.
  
- 5** They were in the car nearly all night because
  - A** it became impossible to open the doors.
  - B** they were told not to leave it.
  - C** nobody knew where they were.
  
- 6** The following day, they travelled to a village in
  - A** a rescue vehicle.
  - B** an ambulance.
  - C** their own car.





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At first, I was quite certain it wouldn't last long. It was March in Italy so I wasn't worried. Of course, it was rather annoying we'd gone the wrong way, but I couldn't blame Mum and Dad because it'd been my idea. And we were still moving, but not very fast.

That meant having the engine on so we only used it a bit. Instead we got all our jumpers, trousers and socks from our suitcases and wore them all night. We were still frozen, though, and wished we had some coffee or tea with us.

- 4** How did they try to keep warm in the car?
- A** They put on lots of clothes.
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How did you get moving again?

The rescue vehicles didn't get there until the afternoon. They'd called to ask if we needed an ambulance and luckily we didn't, so they just cleared the snow and led us along the road back to the main road. We then drove to the nearest village. There we stopped for an enormous hot meal of roast fish and pasta with cheese, the most delicious I've ever tasted!

If  
whether ли

**Olivia:** Near Capracotta, in the mountains. There'd already been some light snow and we stopped for a quick meal before carrying on to a crossroads, but there we took a wrong turning and got completely lost. Then, while we were trying to decide how to get back to the main road, some really heavy snow started coming down.

**Interviewer:** Was that frightening?

**Olivia:** At first, I was quite certain it wouldn't last long. It was March in Italy so I wasn't worried. Of course, it was rather annoying we'd gone the wrong way, but I couldn't blame Mum and Dad because it'd been my idea. And we were still moving, but not very fast.

**Interviewer:** When did you have to stop?

**Olivia:** Well, it was getting quite difficult to see and we nearly crashed into a parked car. There was more and more snow on the road, so when we tried to go up a steep hill the wheels started going round really fast but it was so deep, the car just wouldn't move forwards. It looked as if we'd be stuck there, but we didn't have much petrol left so we switched off the engine. Dad tried to phone for help but couldn't get through.

**Interviewer:** How did you stay warm? With the car heater?

**Olivia:** That meant having the engine on so we only used it a bit. Instead we got all our jumpers, trousers and socks from our suitcases and wore them all night. We were still frozen, though, and wished we had some coffee or tea with us.



**Interviewer:** So you spent the whole night inside the car?

**Olivia:** Yes. My mum had managed to contact the emergency services. They knew our location from our phone signal and they advised us to 'stay in our vehicle until help could be sent the next day'. That's what we did, but by then the snow was starting to cover the car completely. So we cleared a space next to the doors in case we needed to get out.

**Interviewer:** How did you get moving again?

**Olivia:** The rescue vehicles didn't get there until the afternoon. They'd called to ask if we needed an ambulance and luckily we didn't, so they just cleared the snow and led us along the road back to the main road. We then drove to the nearest village. There we stopped for an enormous hot meal of roast fish and pasta with cheese, the most delicious I've ever tasted!

- 1** Luke's father is going to the desert to
  - A** teach.
  - B** clean the area.
  - C** build a medical centre.
  
- 2** Luke hopes to
  - A** record most of the journey with his camera.
  - B** get more support for the project.
  - C** reach the camp quickly.
  
- 3** Luke may have to
  - A** limit the time he can use his equipment.
  - B** borrow some equipment.
  - C** use his equipment more at the end of the day.
  
- 4** What difficulty might Luke have?
  - A** taking enough clothes
  - B** staying warm at night
  - C** keeping cool during the day
  
- 5** Luke will eat food that is
  - A** brought from a different place.
  - B** provided by the local people.
  - C** unique to the desert.
  
- 6** Luke is anxious because
  - A** he doesn't know how he'll communicate with people.
  - B** he might not sleep well.
  - C** he hasn't travelled to a foreign country before.




Check your answers after doing the task.

- 1 Why did Hannah want to try paragliding?
  - A She had seen other people doing it.
  - B She wanted to write an article about it.
  - C She was bored with the sport she was doing.
- 2 Why did Hannah choose to do a paragliding course in France?
  - A The location was safer.
  - B The course was cheaper.
  - C The weather was better.
- 3 Hannah says that the advantage of learning to paraglide from the sand dune is that
  - A you are unlikely to fall in the sea.
  - B you can land comfortably on the sand.
  - C you cannot fall too far.
- 4 How did Hannah spend the first morning of her course?
  - A She learned to lift her paraglider.
  - B She flew to the bottom of the dune.
  - C She watched other people paragliding.
- 5 When she started flying, her instructor
  - A shouted at her from the ground.
  - B talked to her over the radio.
  - C flew next to her.
- 6 When you land after paragliding, it feels like
  - A jumping from a seat.
  - B falling from a horse.
  - C falling from a bicycle.
- 7 What, for Hannah, is the best reason to go paragliding?
  - A It's exciting.
  - B It's unusual.
  - C It's quiet.



**HW**



 **CD 1 Track 25**

**Interviewer:** So, Hannah, what made you want to go on a paragliding course? It sounds like an extremely risky thing to want to do, even for a journalist like yourself.

**Hannah:** Well, I thought it was a bit risky too. I mean, as a sports journalist, I spend my life watching people do different sports and I've done a fair number of them myself. It's one of the qualifications for the job, I suppose. Anyway, a couple of years ago, I was actually in Switzerland playing golf with friends. I was researching for an article on golf courses and, you know, golf isn't the most exciting of sports. Anyway, I was looking down the course planning my next shot or something when I saw these paragliders floating down from the heights. I thought to myself, that looks like fun. Perhaps I should have a go at it myself.

**Interviewer:** So you went on a course in France, I believe.

**Hannah:** That's right. I'd actually tried to go on a paragliding course in England a few years ago. I'd even paid the course fee – about £500 – but every time I went down to do the course, it was either too windy or it was raining, so in the end I got fed up and asked for my money back. Anyway, looking on the Internet, I found this rather wonderful place, called Dune du Pyla on the coast in south-west France. It's actually the highest sand dune in Europe – and they run courses there. The price was a bit higher with the travel, but it was a really nice place, and since sunshine was almost guaranteed, I went for it.

**Interviewer:** Great! And can you tell me, are there any advantages to jumping off a sand dune? I imagine it's rather less dangerous than jumping off a mountain, isn't it?

**Hannah:** Well, it isn't so high – only about 150 metres, in fact – but wherever you fall, it's going to hurt, so from that point of view, it doesn't necessarily make a lot of difference. But the good thing is that the beach guarantees you a relatively soft landing. Too soft if you go off the beach and into the water, because then you'll need rescuing, although there's usually a steady breeze to keep you from going into the sea.



**Hannah:** The major problem for a complete beginner like myself is actually learning how to hold your paraglider up in the air – er, you know, so that both sides open properly. They only allow you to run off the edge and fly when you’ve mastered that technique, so I didn’t get to fly till after lunch on my first day. Getting your paraglider open is quite tricky to start with. It makes you feel a bit silly when you see other people happily flying around below you or above you all morning!

**Interviewer:** And when you actually start flying, how does your teacher tell you what to do? Does he fly along beside you?

**Hannah:** No, it sounds a nice idea, and I’d have felt a lot safer if I’d had someone beside me. In fact, I listened to my instructor, Chantalle, through an earphone – she stayed down below and spoke into a small microphone device to tell me what to do. It was generally very quiet, calm and civilised, except when she raised her voice to shout at other flyers to keep away from me. And then you really heard her!

**Interviewer:** And is landing a problem?

**Hannah:** Surprisingly not. I was expecting something rather violent – you know, I’ve come off a horse in my

time and that’s a lot rougher, I can tell you. This was a relatively soft landing – the sand cushions you a bit – so hardly more of a bump than hopping off a park bench. And you’re wearing a helmet, of course, rather like a biker’s, so the danger’s minimal.

**Interviewer:** But is it really as safe as you make out?

**Hannah:** They say it is. I mean, there are a couple of serious accidents every year, but the people I know who do it are very safety-conscious. Most sports, including slow earthbound ones like golf, have some element of risk – I’ve known a few people get hit by golf balls – some of my own even! Most of all, though, I was taken by the silence. I mean, you’re not disturbing anybody in your rather strange eccentric quest for thrills and new sensations. That for me’s the best thing and something I’ve rarely come across before.

**Interviewer:** Hannah, thank you.

**Hannah:** A pleasure.

